

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 20174 281717Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 /077 W
-----281745Z 012076 /43

R 281351Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2524
INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 39
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USIA WASHDC
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, PLO, UR, US, XF, XJ, AS, CSCE
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS - DEC 28

1. U.S. COVERAGE IS MIXED. IMPLICITLY RATHER FAVORABLE
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COMMENT ON CARTER TIME MAGAZINE INTERVIEW AND ON CARTER
APPOINTMENTS IS MATCHED BY NEGATIVE ARTICLES ON CIA-FBI
SKULDUGGERY.

-- PRAVDA COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN BY SERGEY
VISHNEVSKIY DESCRIBES CARTER CABINET APPOINTEES AS

REPRESENTING "MODERATE CENTER" OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WITH VANCE AND BRZEZINSKI SEEN AS SUPPORTERS -- "ALTHOUGH NOT WITHOUT RESERVATION"-- OF CONTINUATION OF PROCESS OF DETENTE AND FOR CONSTRUCTIVE UNDERSTANDING WITH SOVIET UNION--"ABOVE ALL ON LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMAMENTS."

--CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES TASS N.Y. ARTICLE REPORTING CARTER'S TIME MAGAZINE INTERVIEW WHICH SINGLES OUT PRESIDENT-ELECT'S COMMENTS ON "PARAMOUNT SIGNIFICANCE" OF AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET UNION ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS; ON VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING WHICH "COULD" SERVE AS BASE FOR NEW AGREEMENT AND WHICH MIGHT, IN SOME MEASURE, BE DEVELOPED FURTHER; AND ON HOPE THAT HE MIGHT MEET WITH BREZHNEV IN 1977 IS ALSO MENTIONED.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ CARRY TASS WASHINGTON ARTICLE MENTIONING SENATOR SCHWEIKER'S CALL FOR INVESTIGATION OF ARMY 1950'S AND 60'S BW EXPERIMENTS.

--KZ HAS TASS WASHINGTON ARTICLE ON PENTAGON EFFORT TO BEND APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION DUE TO ITS CONCERN WITH PROCUREMENT OF "SPARROW" MISSILE FROM RAYTHEON COMPANY.

--IZVESTIYA HAS A NOTE ON ALLEGED FBI SPYING ON PERSONNEL WORKING FOR CHARLESTON (VA) GAZETTE. SAME ISSUE HAS AN ARTICLE BY TASS CORRESPONDENT IN N.Y. BASED ON N.Y. TIMES EDITORIAL ON CIA SPYING ON MICRO-NESIAN DELEGATION DURING RECENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 20174 281717Z

2. OTHER COVERAGE:

--PRAVDA PRINTS LONG UNGA WRAP-UP COMMENTARY BY V. LEVONOV (PROBABLY PSEUDONYM; COULD BE VIKTOR LEVONOVICH ISRAELYAN, MFA IO CHIEF) WHICH REPEATS MUCH OF GENERAL LINE PRESS HAS USED THROUGHOUT UNGA ON SUCCESSES FOR SOVIET INITIATIVES--GROMYKO MEMORANDUM IN PARTICULAR--AND IMPORTANCE OF SESSION FOR DENOUNCING COLONIALISM AND RACISM AND FOR ENDING ARMS RACE. MOST OF ARTICLE DEVOTED TO ARMS CONTROL RESOLUTIONS WITH PECKING ORDER OF ISSUES BEING: NUF TREATY (MAJOR EMPHASIS); ENMOD (A SOVIET INITIATIVE); WDC/UNSSD (LINKAGE IS COMPLETE); CTB; AND STRENGTHENING NPT.

--PRAVDA ANNOUNCES VISIT OF ITALIAN FONMIN FORLANI TO USSR FOR MID-JANUARY.

-- IZVESTIYA HAS PIECE BY COMMENTATOR A. GRIGOR'YANTS ON "THE GOAL OF DEEPENING DETENTE" WHICH FOCUSES PETULANTLY ON NATO REJECTION OF WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL ON NUCLEAR NON-FIRST-USE (NNFU); HE ASCRIBES REJECTION TO MILITARISTS (AND U.S. SENATORS') PRESSURE FOR FIRST-USE STRATEGY. CITING "POLITICAL ACTIVISTS, SOCIAL CIRCLES AND LEADING ORGANS OF WORLD PRESS" WHO CALL FOR "SERIOUS STUDY" OF PROPOSAL BY WEST, GRIGOR'YANTS CONCLUDES THAT "SOCIALIST COUNTRIES" ARE READY TO LOOK AT CONSTRUCTIVE COUNTERPROPOSALS, BUT HAVE ALREADY PROVED HOW SERIOUSLY THEY TAKE HELSINKI OBLIGATIONS.

-- PRAVDA HAS TASS CAIRO ARTICLE OUTLINING RECENT POLICY STATEMENT TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BY LEADER OF EGYPTIAN NATIONAL-PROGRESSIVE-LEFT PARTY, KHALID MUHI AL-DIN, WHO REPORTEDLY CALLED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION--"ONE OF CO-CHAIRMEN OF GENEVA CONFERENCE"--, EMPHASIZED MILITARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 MOSCOW 20174 281717Z

ASSISTANCE WHICH SOVIET UNION HAD AND COULD PROVIDE; WARNED OF U.S. INTERESTS IN M.E.; AND CRITICIZED GOVERNMENT'S FLABBY ECONOMIC PROGRAM.

--KZ HAS TASS CAIRO ARTICLE ON HEROISM OF CAPTAIN AND CREW OF SOVIET TANKER "LENINO" WHICH WENT TO RESCUE OF BURNING EGYPTIAN SHIP "PATRA."

-- WEEKLY NOVOYE VREMYA SIGNED TO PRESS DEC 24 HAS ARTICLE BY V. BUKHARKOV ON PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT AFTER PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING IN DAMASCUS AND BEFORE 13TH SESSION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PALESTINE SCHEDULED FOR CAIRO. BUKHARKOV ADMITS THAT CENTRAL COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE SAID NOTHING ABOUT PLO PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CONFERENCE, BUT HE POINTS OUT THAT COUNCIL APPROVED RECENT UN RESOLUTIONS ON M.E. AND PALESTINIAN ISSUES WHICH, HE SAYS, INCLUDED CALL FOR CONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE BY MARCH 1977 AND "RECOGNITION OF INALIENABLE RIGHT OF PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN IT."

-- V. KALININ HAS A SHORT ARTICLE IN PRAVDA ON INTERVIEW WHICH AUSTRALIAN PM FRASER GAVE INDONESIAN PAPER "MERDEKA." IN REBUTTAL TO FRASER'S CLAIMS ABOUT SOVIET THREAT IN INDIAN OCEAN AREA, KALININ SAYS SOVIET SHIP VISITS IN IO OCCUR IN FULL ACCORD WITH NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND AFFIRMS FRASER LACKS SUPPORT NOT ONLY IN AREA STATES BUT IN AUSTRALIA ITSELF, CITING SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DECLARATION THAT SOVIET SHIPS IN IO ARE NOT A DIRECT THREAT TO AUSTRALIA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW20174
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760474-0146
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761210/aaaaaieh.tel
Line Count: 170
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 MAR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <06 APR 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS - DEC 28
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, UR, US, XF, XJ, AS, PLO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006